

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please CANCEL claims 1-9 and 12-18 without prejudice to or disclaimer of their subject matter. Please AMEND claims 10 and 11, as follows.

1-9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) An image reading apparatus comprising:  
an image reading means for reading image data on a predetermined pixel  
region basis;

a storage means for storing the image data; and  
a read pixel changing means for changing the predetermined pixel region  
according to the storage capacity of said storage means,

wherein said image reading means performs overlap reading on a part of  
adjacent predetermined pixel regions, and according to Claim 9;

wherein the overlap reading range is changed in accordance with the  
predetermined pixel region changed by said read pixel changing means.

11. (Currently Amended) An image reading apparatus comprising:  
an image reading means for reading image data on a predetermined pixel  
region basis, wherein the image reading means performs overlap reading on a part of adjacent  
predetermined pixel regions;

a storage means for storing the image data;

a read pixel changing means for changing the predetermined pixel region  
according to the storage capacity of said storage means; and  
~~according to Claim 9, further comprising an averaging means for averaging~~  
image data obtained through overlap reading.

12-18. (Cancelled)